Profit margin of agricultural production

3256. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit margin of agricultural production is on the decline in many parts of the country and farmers are falling to debt trap and even committing suicide;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study in this regard in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to increase the agriculture productivity in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The net income(net return) on paddy, wheat, jawar and bajra during the period 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 in States with major share in production, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

As per the NSSO Report No.498, based on the survey conducted in 2003, out of 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million(48.6%) were reported to be indebted. The average outstanding debt, per indebted farmers household was at Rs.25,902. The details of farmers debt at that time in the country, is given in the Statement-II (*S*ee below).

The incidents of suicides by farmers have been mainly reported from 31 districts spread over the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala. Besides this, some cases of farmers' suicide were also reported by the State of Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. As per the State Governments, indebtedness is one of the reasons of suicides by farmers. A study sponsored by Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, on 'Market Imperfection and Farmers' Distress' conducted by Agriculture Development and Rural Transformation Centre, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore covering the State/s of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka during the period 1997 to 2002 focusing on identification of the agro-economic causes

of distress faced by the farming community has observed that suicide by farmers cannot be attributed to any single reason. It is a combination of different circumstances including indebtedness, crop failure and social factors, such as, family problems, chronic illness, individual mindset/psychology etc. In order to address the problem of indebtedness of farmers and to enhance the economic viability of farming, the Government of India implemented a Debt waiver and Debt Relief scheme, 2008 in all districts of the country. As per provisional figures, a total of 3.01 crores small and marginal farmers and 0.67 crore other farmers have benefitted from the scheme involving debt waiver and debt relief to the tune of Rs. 65,318.33 crores, as their line of credit has been declogged due to clearing off of their principal and interest liabilities. Moreover, the Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. The Minimum Support Prices(MSP) for various agricultural commodities are fixed as per recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The CACP while recommending the MSP for various agricultural crops takes into account the cost of all kinds of inputs at their prevailing rates which also included seeds, fertilizers and irrigation charges etc. Substantial increase in the MSP of major cereals ranging from 49% to 78% was provided during the last 5 years. MSPs of pulses & oilseeds were enhanced by up to 83% during the same period.

Besides this, the Government of India is implementing the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 with an objective to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of the farmers and to ensure that agriculture progress is measured by advances made in this income. The policy provisions, *inter alia*, include supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers to facilitate application of integrated pest management and integrated nutrient management system. For revitalization of agriculture sector, which *inter-alia* includes increase in production and productivity, a number of plan schemes and programmes are under implementation across the country which include National Food Security Mission to improve production and productivity of foodgrains, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an objective to incentivise the States so as to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors in a decentralized manner, National Horticulture Mission, Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management and Support to Agriculture Extension Services etc.

Statement-I

Net income (Net return) of following Crops in different states during 2004-2007

Crop	States	Value of Gross Prod (Rs. /hect)			Cost of Cultivation C2 (Rs./hect)			Net income (Rs./hect)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Paddy	Andhra Pradesh	34057.98	32107.77	34317.66	29056.11	29256.97	30491.62	5001.87	2850.80	3826.14
	Assam	11647.33	13618.45	11675.31	14364.28	15079.18	15159.23	-2716.95	-1460.73	-3483.92
	Bihar	13376.03	14603.54	15633.13	14640.07	15181.55	15226.50	-1264.04	-578.01	406.63
	Haryana	36742.64	35581.42	40788.58	32038.25	30543.61	31810.81	4704.39	5037.81	8977.77
	Kerala	25485.39	27624.54	32220.61	26644.62	27866.20	30023.47	-1159.13	-241.66	2197.14
	Madhya Pradesh	10398.98	11736.37	11968.98	11976.48	12685.78	12550.84	-1577.50	-949.41	-581.86
	Karnataka	31102.92	35230.09	36232.17	30556.70	28350.97	27872.09	547 22	6879.12	8360.08
	Orissa	17462.69	17095.56	17868.16	18198.62	18781.20	19319 98	-730.93	-1685.64	-1451.82
	Punjab	42414.24	37403.66	42138.57	31770.38	30007.47	30384.12	10643.86	7396.19	11754.45
	Tamil Nadu	27749.69	28479.96	33386.25	30103.76	32792.95	35477.49	-2354.07	-4312.99	-2091.24
	Uttar Pradesh	18477.89	20742.12	20829.67	19520.32	20557.42	20338.40	-1042.43	184.70	491.27
	West Bengal	22505.10	23384.81	25162.80	24403.45	25162.96	26723.20	-1698.35	-1778.15	-1560.40
	Chhattisgarh	16232.74	17533.99	19375.48	14350.98	15304.30	16619.37	1881.76	2229.89	2756.11
	Jharkhand	10139.24	8083.98	13960.77	13535.32	12833.08	15802.46	-3396.08	-4749.10	-1841.69

	Uttarakhand	19855.15	22556.55	26133.90	18552.77	21230.29	21896.16	1302.38	1326.26	4237.74
	Gujarat	*	23612.93	26688.28	*	18854.53	17535.05	*	4758.40	9153.23
	Himachal Pradesh	*	16834.64	17694.24	*	15463.57	18189.17	*	1371.07	1505.07
	Maharashtra	*	23992.82	21493.30	*	25464.48	27740.46	*	-1471.66	-6247.16
Wheat	Bihar	16441.16	16982.02	21306.57	15456.25	15010.70	15693.57	984.91	1971.32	5613.00
	Gujarat	24293.43	27708.74	29504. 97	18216.88	18276.58	19900.05	6076.55	9432.16	9604.92
	Haryana	29652.98	32894.43	41332.88	24197.23	27317.75	28424.35	5455.75	5576.68	12908.53
	Himachal Pradesh	13880.88	17455.74	24261.63	13603.61	18363.25	20964.89	277.27	1092.49	3296.74
	Madhya Pradesh	16979.27	21271.43	26821.68	14696.06	16978.39	19372.74	2283.21	4293.04	7448.94
	Punjab	31026.23	33612.05	41211.53	24197.48	26699.59	29946.95	6628.75	6912.46	11264.58
	Rajasthan	29599.02	34612.30	40440.53	19609.52	22415.60	24660.23	9989.50	12196.70	15780.30
	Uttar Pradesh	21608.90	25324.75	33826.02	20812.56	22821.62	24688.79	796.34	2503.13	9137.23
	Chhattisgarh	9245.02	12234.89	17709.54	11443.44	12480.33	15057.37	-2198.42	-245.44	2652.17
	Jharkhand	9897.16	12110.09	12407.24	15007.35	14609.04	14999.39	-5110.19	-2498.95	-2592.15
	Uttarakhand	20824.43	21040.82	25853.53	20842.49	20107.67	24552.28	-18.06	933.15	1301.25
	West Bengal	*	17182.49	20797.36	*	21981.49	23241.56	*	-4799.00	-2444.20
Jowar	Andhra Pradesh	9826.89	11714.05	12611.59	11636.66	12971.99	13338.37	-1809.77	-1257.94	-726.78
	Madhya Pradesh	6867.39	6215.66	10799.16	7848.16	8159.33	10677.15	-988.77	-1943.67	122.01
	Karnataka	6027.67	6078.30	6569.72	6078.49	7135.56	7631.68	-50.82	-1057.26	-1061.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Maharashtra	11162.52	12652.13	15265.36	10306.06	14846.56	14850.68	856.46	-2194.43	414.70
	Rajasthan	8109.12	8672.93	7498.97	7287.81	8549.13	7368.96	821.31	123.80	130.01
	Tamil Nadu	9903.75	5855.90	8992.46	11157.44	8222.52	9833.95	-1253.69	-2366.62	-841.49
Bajra	Gujarat	13212.16	15500.06	17135.61	12305.52	14010.83	14148.83	906.64	1489.23	2986.98
	Haryana	7299.39	8183.39	11916.47	9325.70	11462.76	13218.74	-2026.31	-3279.37	-1302.27
	Karnataka	*	3733.91	5170.39	*	5657.86	6208.47	*	-1923.95	-1038.08
	Maharashtra	9743.17	11035.82	14112.29	10859.95	12966.62	14741.12	-1116.78	-1930.80	-628.83
	Rajasthan	8101.63	7077.09	9441.22	7166.10	6902.64	8178.10	935.53	174.45	1263.12
	Uttar Pradesh	10159.56	10014.64	16902.31	11004.42	11371.90	14296.26	-844.86	-1357.26	2606.05

Note:- *- Crop was not selected for study in the block period 2002-03 to 2004-05.Value of Gross-product = Value'of .Main product + Value of By-product

Net Income = Value of Gross product - Cost of Cultivation (C2)

(Rs./hectare) (Rs./hectare)

Statement-II

The details of Estimated number of Rural Households and total indebted farmer households in each State

State	Estimated number of rural households ('00)	Estimated number of farmer households ('00)	Estimated number of indebted farmer households ('00)	Percentage of farmer households indebted
(1)	(2)	(1)	14)	(5)
Andhra Pradesh	142512	60339	49493	82.0
Arunachal Pradesh	15412	1227	72	5.9
Assam	41525	25040	4536	18.1
Bihar	116853	70804	23383	33.0
Chhattisgarh	36316	27598	11092	40.2
Gujarat	63015	37845	19644	51.9
Haryana	371474	1944S	10330	53.1
Himachal Pradesh	11928	9061	3030	33.4
Jammu & Kashmir	10418	9432	3003	31.8
Jharkhand	36930	28238	5893	20.9
Karnataka	69908	40413	24897	61.6
Kerala	49942	21946	14126	64.4
Madhya Pradesh	93898	63206	32110	50.8
Maharashtra	118177	65817	36098	54.8
Manipur	2685	2146	533	24.8
Meghalaya	3401	2543	103	4.1
Mizoram	942	780	184	23.6
Nagaland	973	805	294	36.5
Orissa	66199	42341	20250	47.8
Punjab	29847	18442	12069	65.4
Rajasthan	70172	53080	27828	52.4
Sikkim	812	531	174	38.8
Tamil Nadu	110182	38880	28954	74.5

(1)	(2)	(1)	14)	(5)
Tripura	5977	2333	1148	49.2
Uttar Pradesh	221499	171575	69199	40.3
Uttaranchal	11959	8962	644	7.2
West Bengal	121667	69226	34696	50.1
Group of UT's	2325	732	372	50.8
All India	1478988	893504	434242	48.6

Source: NSS Report No. 498

Deep sea fishing

3257. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been seized of the hindrances being faced by Indian fishing entrepreneurs in deep sea fishing activities;

(b) if so, the details of the hindrances confronting the deep sea fishing enterprises;

(c) the steps being contemplated, if any, for mitigating the same;

(d) whether it is a fact that an Empowered Committee was constituted to examine the problems;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the recommendations of the said Committee indicating status of implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There are no hindrances as such being faced by the Indian entrepreneurs in deep-sea fishing. However, representations have been received from the Indian entrepreneurs on some issues related to operation of deep-sea fishing vessels, such as Coast Guards inspection, short voyage period prescribed, short validity of provisional registration of vessels and shortage of trained Indian crew.

(c) Steps have already been taken to remove the operational difficulties faced by the entrepreneurs like extension of voyage period from 45 days to 60 days (for vessels below 40 meters), and 75 days (for vessels above 40 meters), and validity of No Objection Certificate/provisional registry of deep-sea fishing vessels from six months to one year. A check-list of the requisite documents onboard fishing vessels has also been finalized to avoid undue hardship during the Coast Guard inspections of deep-sea fishing vessels.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. With the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), an Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries (EC) has been constituted on 17th November, 2004 under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry,